REMARKS

The Examiner has requested Applicant to withdraw the Preliminary Amendment filed on May 14, 2002. Accordingly, Applicant has amended the specification deleting the new matter.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1 and 2 as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The Examiner states the claims contain subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way to reasonably convey to one skilled that applicant has possession of the claimed invention. The specification as originally filed fails to provide support for copolymer and/or terpolymer resins comprising butene, hexane, and/or octane with propylene in feedstocks.

Applicant finds support for this matter in the specification at page 4, lines 7-9.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 2, 10, 11, 14, 15, 18 and 19 as failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The phrase "high strength poly one-side ream wrapper" wherever it occurs renders the claims indefinite. Which strength of poly one-side ream wrapper is considered as "high strength poly one-side ream wrapper"? Clarification and/or correction is requested.

Applicant has amended the claims appropriately to remove the term "high strength". Page 3, lines 10-11 describe a poly one side ream wrap as a sheet of paper with low density polyethylene coating on one side.

The Examiner has stated that with regards to claims 2, 10, 11, 14, 15, 18 and 19, that the phrase "polyethylene monomer" renders the claims indefinite because it is not clear whether the applicants are trying to claim a layer of polyethylene or a layer of ethylene monomer. The polyethylene is not a monomer. The rejection may be overcome by deleting the term "monomer" from the said phrase.

Applicant has replaced the term "monomer" with the term "resin" which is found on Page 4, line 14 of the specification.

The Examiner has objected to the disclosure because of the following informalities: Page 3, line 14, the term "monomer" should be deleted since polyethylene is not a monomer. Page 3 lines 15-16, the phrase "a monomer resin" should be deleted.

Applicant has amended the specification accordingly.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 2, 10, 11, 14, 15, 18 and 19 as being anticipated by Kittrell, 5,196,269 with an evidence Eichbauer, 5,922,441.

The Examiner states that Kittrell discloses a paper substrate (14) coated with a layer (12) of low density polyethylene, linear low density polyethylene, medium density polyethylene, high density polyethylene, polypropylene or blend thereof and skin layer (10) of a blend of non-polar olefin polymer and a polar copolymer resins such as ethylene-acrylic acid copolymer or ethylene methacrylic acid copolymer. The non-polar olefin polymer is the same as recited for the layer (12) (Fig. 1, col. 3, line 59 to col. 4 line 10 and claims).

This section states, "Fig. 1 illustrates a paper or paperboard coated structure. The paper or paperboard substrate 14 has coated thereon a coextrusion coating 15 embodying the present invention made up of a nonpolar olefinic polymer layer 12 and an exterior skin layer 10 of a blend of a nonpolar olefinic polymer and a polar copolymer. The blend layer acts as the exterior to facilitate printing when the laminate is assembled into a blank and/or carton. The nonpolar olefinic polymer layer 12 and the nonpolar olefin polymer constituent of the blend layer could be low density polyethylene polymer, linear low density polyethylene, medium density polyethylene, linear medium density polyethylene, high density polyethylene, polypropylene or blends thereof. Whereas, polar copolymer resins which are used for the present invention as the polar constituent of the blend are ethylene acrylic acid copolymers and ethylene-methacrylic acid copolymers, also contemplated and used are ethylene based graft copolymers for the nonpolar/polar blend layer."

Applicant has amended the claims so that the comprising language has been amended to "consisting essentially of". Applicant has further amended the claims to relate to a ream wrapper. Kittrell requires as stated in the section selected by the Examiner that the paper or paperboard substrate have coated thereon two layers, one consisting of an external skin. Claims 1 and 2 consist essentially of a single layer. Since the skin layer of Kittrell is essential, claims 1 and 2 are not anticipated nor obvious. Further, claims 1, 2, 10, 11, 14, 15, 18, and 19 all relate to a ream wrapper. Kittrell relates to paperboard laminates which form packages or cartons. Therefore, Kittrell with evidence from

Eichbauer does not anticipate nor make obvious the claims of the present invention.

Kittrell relates to paperboard laminates having polar copolymer/nonpolar polymer blend surface coatings. The invention relates to a coextrusion coating for paper or paperboard substrates. The coextrusion includes a nonpolar polymer layer and a thin exterior skin layer made up of a nonpolar polymer and a polar copolymer.

The Examiner states that the linear low density polyethylene is a copolymer of ethylene and alpha olefin. The alpha olefin includes butene, hexene and octene as evidenced by Eichbauer at col. 5 line 62 to col. 6 line 11. This section states "Ethylenic colpolymers may be those commonly referred to as linear low density polyethylenes (LLDPE). Preferably the ethylenic copolymers employed are those having from about 1 to about 20, preferably from about 1 to about 10 weight percent of said higher alpha olefin monomer copolymerized therein. In addition, the alpha olefin monomer employed in the ethylenic copolymer may be selected from the group consisting of 1-butene, 3-methyl-1-butene, 3-methyl-1-pentene, 1-hexene, 4-methyl-1-pentene, 3-methyl-1-hexene, 1-octene and 1-decene. Particularly preferred are the 1-hexene alpha olefins. The LLDPE resins are prepared at relatively low pressures employing coordination-type catalysts. Reference may be made to US Patent Nos. 3,645,992, 4,076,698, 4,011,382, 4,163,831, 4,205,021, 4,302,565, 4,302,566, 4,359,561, 4,522,987 for more details of the manufacture and properties of

LLDPE resins including those which are particularly useful herein." Thus, the Examiner states that Kittrell's reference meets the claimed limitations.

Eichbauer relates to a multi-layer, thermoplastic stretch wrap film containing at least three polymeric film layers and comprised of an inner polymeric layer. The inner polymeric layer comprises a blend of a low polydispersity polymer and either a high pressure low density polyethylene resin, a very low density polyethylene resin or a combination thereof. The stretch wrap film may include a first layer and a second layer. The first and second layers may comprise a polymer of two or more monomers, wherein a first monomer is ethylene, in a major amount by weight, and a second monomer is an alpha olefin of from about 3 to 12 carbon atoms, in a minor amount by weight. Thermoplastic stretch films are used for overwrap packaging of goods, in particular palleted goods.

There is no teachings to combine Kittrell with Eichbauer since Kittrell relates to coatings added to cartons and packaging and Eichbauer relates to a thermoplastic stretch wrap film having at least three layers. The combination of Eichbauer and Kittrell would teach at least three layers which goes beyond the claims of the present invention. Therefore, the combination of Kittrell and Eichbauer does not anticipate nor make obvious the claims of the present invention.

Applicant believes that the application is now in condition for allowance.

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